REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application based on the foregoing Amendment and the following Remarks is respectfully requested.

At the outset, prior to addressing the merits of the issues raised in the Office Action, the applicants call to the Examiner's attention that in order to enhance the recitation of the limitations of the present invention, Claim 1 has been amended to recite the limitation of -- wherein user authentication occurs on the token.-- In addition, the limitations of the claim have been amended to emphasize the memory and the processor that are specific to the token.

Similarly, Claim 18 has been amended also to enhance the recitation of the limitations of the present invention to add the limitation--authenticating a user identity in the token--. Claim 35 has been amended similarly to add the limitation --authenticating, in the token, a user identity--. Also, the limitations of the claim have been amended to emphasize the processor that is specific to the token. Claim 49 has been amended also to add the limitation --the user input device for authenticating by the token the personal identification private to the user--, and also to emphasize the memory and the processor that are specific to the token.

The Applicants have amended Claims 19, 28, 76, 84 and 86 to correct obvious minor typographical errors in those claims. No new matter has been added.

On page 2 of the Office Action, paragraph 1, the Examiner indicates that Claim 53 depends from a canceled claim 48 and the Examiner requires correction. In response to the objection to Claim 53, the Applicants have amended Claim 53 to change the dependency from canceled Claim 48 to Claim 49. Therefore, the Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the objection to Claim 53.

Claim 54 has been amended also to add the limitation --authenticating in the token the user input comprising a personal identification via an input device-- and also to emphasize the processor that is specific to the token.

The probable allowance of Claims 51-53 and 58-60 is acknowledged and gratefully appreciated. These claims have only been objected to based on their dependency on rejected base claims. On Page 9 of the Office Action, paragraph 31, with regard to Claim 49, the Examiner states that the Applicant is advised to incorporate the limitations in Claim 49 with Claims 50-53, 54 with Claims 56-60. The Applicants have interpreted this statement to mean that Claims 51 and 58 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten into independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims.

As a result, the Applicants have rewritten Claims 51 and 58 into independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. Specifically, Claim 51 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of base Claim 49, prior to the current amendment, and of intervening Claim 50. Similarly, Claim 58 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of base Claim 54, prior to the current amendment, and of intervening Claim 57.

Therefore, in that claims 51 and 58 have been rewritten into independent form, the Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the objections to Claims 51-53 and 58-60 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. It is respectfully urged that Claims 51-53 and 58-60 are now in proper form for allowance and such action is respectfully solicted.

Claim 61 has been amended similarly to Claims 49 and 54 to recite the limitation --wherein the token authenticates user identity--. Similarly, Claim 71 has been amended to recite the limitation --authenticating a user identity in the token--. Claims 77 and 80 have been amended recite the limitation-- the token processor authenticating a user identity--. Claim 86 has been amended to recite the limitation of --authenticating in the token a user identity--. Claims 71, 77, 80 and 86 have also

been amended to emphasize also the processor or the memory that is specific to the token, as appropriate.

Support for the amendment to Claims 1, 18, 35, 49, 54, 61, 71, 77, 80 and 86 is found in the specification on page 21, in Table 3, line 4, wherein it is disclosed with respect to the attribute PIN that access is granted if and only if the proper PIN has been supplied to the personal key 200, and PIN verification is successful (user authentication). Page 39, lines 20-21, disclose that the present invention describes a compact, self-contained personal token. Also on page 39, lines 25-27, it is disclosed that the personal key also comprises an integral user input device and an integral user output device. Consequently, the term personal key and personal token are used interchangeably, in a manner obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made. As a result, no new matter has been added by the amendments to Claims 1, 18, 35, 49, 54, 61, 71, 77, 80 and 86.

With respect to the rejections over the prior art, the Examiner has rejected Claims 1-2, 4-6, 18, 35, 38-40, 49-50, 54, 56-57, 61-62, 65-66, 71, 73, and 86 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Rallis et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,425,084, issued July 23, 2002.

The Examiner has rejected Claims 7-10, 12-15, 19-26, 28-31, 34, 36-37, 41, 43-46, 63-64, 67-69, 72, 74-77, 80-83 85, 87, and 89 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rallis et al. in view of the Kobelius publication.

In response to the foregoing rejections, the Applicants maintain that neither Rallis nor Kobelius, taken alone or in combination, disclose, teach or suggest the limitations of now more specifically amended independent Claims 1, 18 , 35, 49, 54, 61, 71, 77, 80 and 86 of an apparatus comprising a compact personal token wherein user data are stored in the token memory, the token processor authenticates a user identity or a method comprising a step of authenticating a user identity in the token, as generally recited by amended Claims 1, 18, 35, 49, 54, 61, 71, 77, 80 and 86, as appropriate.

Rather, the Rallis et al. patent discloses in column 3, lines 4-16, with respect to FIG. 2, that the Central Processing Unit (CPU) 50 includes a boot-up procedure wherein a user-validation program resides in a ROM adapter 34 of the BIOS 30 and is executed at boot-up and prior to the download of the operating system. Therefore, the user validation program resides in the host computer 10 and not the key device 20.

Similarly, in the Kobelius reference article, it is disclosed on page 1, lines 31-38 of the text portion, that: "When you initiate a network logon with your user identification and password, you receive a numeric string. If you have a handheld hardware token device, you type in that string and your personal identification number (PIN). The token uses a secret algorithm and key to produce what is essentially a onetime, nonrepeatable session password, and then displays it on an LCD screen. You enter that session password on your computer, and if it matches the authentication server's expectation, you're granted access....". Therefore, Kobelius discloses that it is the server and not the token where authentication occurs.
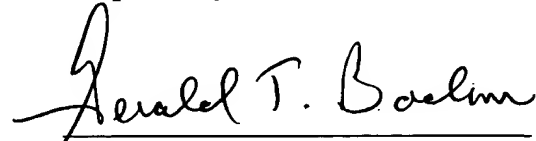
Consequently, neither the Rallis et al. patent nor the Kobelius article discloses, teaches or suggests the limitations of now amended independent Claims 1, 18, 35, 49, 54, 61, 71, 77, 80 and 86 of an apparatus comprising a compact personal token wherein user data are stored in the token memory, the token processor authenticates a user identity or a method comprising a step of authenticating a user identity in the token.

As a result, the Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider the claims in view of the new limitations added to the claims, and to withdraw the rejections of Claims 1-2, 4-6, 18, 35, 38-40, 49-50, 54, 56-57, 61-62, 65-66, 71, 73, and 86 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Rallis et al.

Similarly, the Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider the claims in view of the new limitations added to the claims, and to withdraw the rejections of Claims 7-10, 12-15, 19-26, 28-31, 34, 36-37, 41, 43-46, 63-64, 67-69, 72, 74-77, 80-83 85, 87, and 89 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rallis et al in view of Kobelius.

It is respectfully urged that the foregoing Amendment and Remarks establish the patentable nature of all of the claims remaining in the application, i.e., Claims 1, 2, 4-15, 18-31, 34-46, 49-54, 56-57, 80-87 and 89. No new matter has been added. Wherefore, early and favorable reconsideration and issuance of a Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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